

Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Hiroaki Shibasaki,) Re: Information Disclosure
et al.) Statement
Serial No.: 10/786,404) Group: not yet assigned
)
) Examiner: not yet assigned
Filed: February 24, 2004)
) Our Ref: B-5387 621729-9
For: "INFORMATION PROVIDING...")
) Date: April 25, 2008

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA, 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the next Office Action on the merits. Copies of the documents listed on Form PTO-1449 (modified) are enclosed herewith. Copies of the U.S. patent documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) are not enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a) (2) (ii).

It should be noted that U.S. Patent No. 7,062,254 is the equivalent of European Patent No. EP 1 128 385 and is cited in its place.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

This IDS is being submitted after receiving an Office Action on the merits, but before receiving a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. A fee of 180.00, which is the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c), has been paid concurrently with the filing of this IDS. Thus, this IDS should be fully considered on the merits, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d).

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as

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an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Patent and Trademark Office via electronic filing on April 25, 2008 by Guillermo Gonzalez.

/Guillermo Gonzalez/

Respectfully submitted,

/Robert Popa 43,010/

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Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (1 page)
Copy of Foreign patent document listed on Form PTO-1449 (modified)